GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:546
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2001
REORGANISE THE ARMED FORCES AND SECURITY
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plan to reorganise the Armed Forces by bringing about better integration among its wings, including the intelligence set up;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to implement the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) to (c): Government had constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 17th April 2000 to thoroughly review thenational security system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee, and to formulate specific proposals for implementation. The GoM consisted of the HomeMinister, the Raksha Mantri, the External Affairs Ministerand the Finance Minister. The GoM had after careful consideration of various issues formulated a comprehensive Report titled 'Reforming the National Security System', which was presented to the Prime Ministeron February 26, 2001. The main recommendations of the Report of the GoM in so far as management of Defence is concerned include the establishment of
(i) the Chief of Defence Staff

(CDS),
(ii) Defence Staff,
(iii) a Defence Procurement Board,
(iv) the Defence Intelligence Agency,
(v) a National Defence University,
(vi) Andaman & Nicobar Command,
(vii) Strategic Forces Command
(viii) Integrated HQs of the Ministry of Defence and (ix) Enhanced Delegation of Administrative Powers to Integrated HQs., integrated Defence Perspective Plans for 15-20 years. The GoM has further recommended strengthening of the mechanism for gathering of intelligence and subsequent analysis and dissemination. Government approved the recommendations made in the Report of the GoM on May 11, 2001 with the modification that a view on the recommendation relating to the institution of the C D S will be taken after consultations with various political parties. Implementation of the recommendations of the GoM has already commenced. In order to ensure that the recommendations are implemented in a time bound manner, the implementation process is being closely monitored by the Government. It would not be in the National interest to divulge further details in this regard.